

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8919

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NODIS

CHEROKEE

DEPT PASS SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG US

SUBJ: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT

1. AS YOU KNOW, FAHMY HAD WANTED ME TO SEE THE PRESIDENT BEFORE MY DEPARTURE ON CONSULTATIONS. SINCE I WAS TAKING CODEL WILSON TO MEET WITH SADAT TODAY AT MIT ABUL KOM, IT WAS ARRANGED THAT I STAY BEHIND AFTER THE CODEL'S TALK AND OBTAIN FROM THE PRESIDENT ANY FURTHER THOUGHTS HE MIGHT HAVE. MEETING WITH CODEL WAS VERY CORDIAL AND IS BEING REPORTED SEPTEL.

2. AFTER CODEL HAD LEFT, I TOLD THE PRESIDENT YOU HAD CALLED ME BACK TO WASHINGTON ON CONSULTATION. MURPHY, PINKERING AND PORTER WILL ALSO BE THERE. VISIT WOULD BE BRIEF AND DEAL LARGELY WITH UPCOMING UNSC DEBATE ON ME. I RECALLED HE HAD GIVEN HIS VIEWS TO ATHERTON A WEEK OR SO AGO AND THEY HAD BEEN CONVEYED TO YOU. I WONDERED IF, SINCE THAT TALK, HE HAD HAD ANY OTHER THOUGHTS ON THE SUBJECT OR WHETHER HE WISHED ME TO CONVEY ANY SPECIAL MESSAGES.

3. UNSC DEBATE: SADAT SAID THAT WHAT HE TOLD ATHERTON STILL APPLIES. HE DOES NOT EXPECT ANYTHING TO COME OUT

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OF THE DEBATE AND IS PERSONALLY VERY RELAXED ABOUT IT.

HE WANTED ONLY TO REEMPHASIZE TWO POINTS HE HAD MADE EARLIER: FIRST, WE SHOULD BE CAREFUL ABOUT USING THE VETO. IN THE EVENT WE HAVE TO DO SO, WE SHOULD EXPLAIN OUR REASONS FOR DOING SO TO THE WORLD AT LARGE AND TO THE ARAB WORLD IN PARTICULAR. SECOND, WE SHOULD UNDERSTAND GOE'S POSITION AT THE UPCOMING DEBATE. THE SYRIANS WILL CERTAINLY "AUCTIONEER" TO THE FULLEST EXTENT POSSIBLE. GOE WILL THEREFORE ALSO HAVE TO DO SOME "AUCTIONEERING" OF ITS OWN, ESPECIALLY WITH RESPECT TO THE PLO. GOE WILL DO NOTHING, HOWEVER, THAT UNDERMINES RES 242, 338 OR THE GENEVA NEGOTIATING FRAMEWORK.

4. I NOTED THAT WE, TOO, WANT A CONSTRUCTIVE OUTCOME TO THE DEBATE. WE HAVE NO DESIRE TO USE THE VETO IF WE DO NOT HAVE TO. WE HOPE A RESOLUTION WILL EMERGE THAT REAFFIRMS 242, 338 AND THE GENEVA FRAMEWORK. IF THIS HOPE DOES NOT MATERIALIZE AND A RESOLUTION IS PUSHED WHICH UNDERMINES THE EXISTING PEACE FRAMEWORK, WE MAY HAVE TO CONSIDER THE VETO.

5. SADAT AGAIN INDICATED HIS UNDERSTANDING, BUT REITERATED THE IMPORTANCE OF EXPLAINING TO THE ARABS WHY WE ARE DOING SO. HE SEEMS TO FEEL WE DID A BAD JOB ON THIS SCORE WITH OUR LAST VETO.

6. PLO AND ARAFAT: THE PRESIDENT ASKED THAT I CONVEY TO YOU THAT THE PLO HAS AGAIN BEEN PUTTING OUT FEELERS ABOUT RETURNING TO THE EGYPTIAN FOLD AND GETTING OUT FROM UNDER THE SYRIANS. AT A MEETING THAT HAD TAKEN PLACE A FEW DAYS AGO IN DAMASCUS, TWO VIEWPOINTS HAD BEEN EXPRESSED: FIRST WAS BY ARAFAT, WHO WANTED TO TAKE STEPS TO BRIDGE DIFFERENCES WITH GOE EVEN BEFORE FINAL IMPLEMENTATION OF SINAI II. SECOND WAS BY ABU IYAD, WHO AGREED ON NEED TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH GOE BUT CONTENDED THIS SHOULD WAIT UNTIL SINAI II IS FULLY IMPLEMENTED. BOTH PLO LEADERS, SADAT NOTED, RECOGNIZED THE NEED TO MAKE UP WITH GOE AS THE ONLY STATE ABLE TO FURTHER THEIR INTERESTS.

7. HUSSEIN: SADAT NOTED THAT KING HUSSEIN HAD SENT
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HIM A MESSAGE THAT HE WISHED TO SEND A SENIOR GOJ OFFICIAL TO MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT. HE HAD REPLIED THAT HE IS TOO BUSY TO RECEIVE A JORDANIAN OFFICIAL AND THAT VP MOBAREK WOULD DO SO. HE WAS DOING THIS TO "TEACH HUSSEIN A LESSON" AFTER THE CRITICISMS OF SINAI II WHICH HAD APPEARED IN THE JOINT SYRIAN-JORDANIAN COMMUNIQUE.

8. ANGOLA: SADAT WANTED YOU TO KNOW THAT MOBUTU HAD ASKED FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE FROM EGYPT. THE PRESIDENT HAD REPLIED THAT HE WAS AGREEABLE IN PRINCIPLE TO SEND EQUIPMENT AND HAD ALSO SENT A TWO-MAN MILITARY MISSION TO ZAIRE TO DISCUSS THE MATTER. (SADAT NOTED HE HAD TRIED TO GET THE SHAH TO SEND ONE OR TWO OFFICERS TO ACCOMPANY THE EGYPTIAN MISSION, BUT THE SHAH HAD CLEVERLY STATED THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT EGYPTIAN OFFICERS COULD DEAL WITH THE SITUATION.) UPON ARRIVAL IN KINSHASA, THE TWO EGYPTIAN OFFICERS WERE RECEIVED BY MOBUTU, WHO ASKED NOT ONLY FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT, BUT ALSO FOR COMPLETE MILITARY UNITS. HIS REQUEST INCLUDED COMPLETE AIR DEFENSE UNITS FOR SAM 5S, 6S AND 7S. THIS, THE PRESIDENT OBSERVED, HE IS NOT ABLE TO DO WITHOUT GOING TO THE PEOPLES ASSEMBLY. APART FROM THIS, THE EGYPTIAN PEOPLE ARE TIRED OF WAR AND WOULD NOT WELCOME THE DEPLOYMENT OF EGYPTIAN MILITARY UNITS TO ZAIRE. HE HAD, NEVERTHELESS SENT WORD TO MOBUTU THAT GOE IS READY TO TRAIN ZAIRIANS EITHER IN ZAIRE OR IN EGYPT, WHICHEVER MOBUTU MIGHT PREFER. HE IS ALSO READY TO SEND SOME WEAPONS. THE PRESIDENT ASKED THAT I REAFFIRM TO YOU HIS WILLINGNESS TO BE OF ANY HELP HE CAN TO MOBUTU, INCLUDING ARMS AND TRAINING.

9. I TOLD THE PRESIDENT I HAD HAD SOME DISCUSSIONS WITH FAHMY AND RIAD ON ANGOLA. WE HOPED GOE WOULD SPARE NO EFFORT AT UPCOMING OAU MEETING TO WORK FOR A CREASEFIRE, WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN FORCES, NO FOREIGN INTERVENTION AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF OAU MACHINERY TO WORK OUT A SETTLEMENT AMONG THE THREE PARTIES. I OUTLINED FOR HIM THE SUBSTANCE OF WHAT I HAD TOLD FAHMY.

10. THE PRESIDENT THOUGHT THIS WAS THE RIGHT APPROACH
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AND SAID THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION WILL BE INSTRUCTED TO WORK FOR THIS. UNFORTUNATELY, THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICANS COMPLICATES THE PROBLEMS. I NOTED THAT THE CUBANS ARE ALSO INVOLVED. HE AGREED, BUT RUEFULLY OBSERVED THAT NONE OF THE AFRICANS TALK ABOUT THE CUBANS, ONLY THE SOUTH AFRICANS BECAUSE OF THE LATTER'S RACIST POLICY. I ALSO TOLD THE PRESIDENT I WOULD BE GIVING FAHMY A REPORT OF US INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA, WHICH FAHMY HAD THOUGHT MIGHT BE HELPFUL TO HIM.

11. SADAT SAID HE DOES NOT INTEND TO GO TO THE OAU SUMMIT CONFERENCE. HE GAVE AS HIS REASON THAT, WHILE MOBUTU IS HIS FRIEND, HE IS NOT ANXIOUS TO MEET PERSONALLY WITH HIM NOW FOR FEAR MOBUTU WILL REPEAT HIS REQUEST FOR MILITARY UNITS. INSTEAD VP MOBAREK WILL BE SENT. I

EXPRESSED HOPE THAT MOBAREK WILL BE ADEQUATELY
BRIEFED SINCE MEETING WILL NEED STRONG EGYPTIAN LEADER-
SHIP. SADAT SAID THIS WILL BE DONE. HE ADDED, ALMOST
AS AN AFTERTHOUGHT, FAHMY WILL ALSO BE SENT SINCE FAHMY IS AN
ASTUTE PARLIAMENTARIAN AND KNOWS HOW TO "MANEUVER" AT
SUCH MEETINGS. (I AM NOT AT ALL SURE FAHMY KNOWS THIS AS
YET.) THE PRESIDENT NOTED HE WILL DO ANYTHING HE
CAN TO HELP ON THE POLITICIAL LEVEL. EILTS

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